1	IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS		
2	SHERMAN DIVISION		
3	USA)(DOCKET 4:19-CR-277-54		
4	v.)(OCTOBER 5, 2020		
5)(9:48 A.M.		
6	ROCKY OLIVAREZ, JR.)(SHERMAN		
7			
8	REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPTION OF DETENTION HEARING		
9	BEFORE THE HONORABLE CHRISTINE A. NOWAK		
10	UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE		
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12			
13	APPEARANCES:		
14	FOR THE GOVERNMENT: Mr. Ernest Gonzalez		
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17	FOR THE DEFENDANT: Ms. Linda Guadarrama		
18			
19	THE COURT REPORTER: MS. SHAWNA GAUNTT-HICKS, CSR, CCR DEPUTY COURT REPORTER		
20	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS		
21	(903) 276-1090 SHAWNACCR@OUTLOOK.COM		
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25	PROCEEDINGS RECORDED USING DIGITAL AUDIO; TRANSCRIPT PRODUCED VIA COMPUTER-AIDED TRANSCRIPTION.		

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PROCEEDINGS 1 2 3 (Proceedings commence at 9:48 a.m.) (Defendant present with counsel.) 4 5 THE COURT: Ms. Guadarrama, have you have a 6 7 sufficient opportunity to talk with your client? 8 MS. GUADARRAMA: Yes, Your Honor. 9 THE COURT: Can I just confirm? Are we having a full 10 hearing in your client's case? 11 MS. GUADARRAMA: Yes, Your Honor. I have one 12 witness. 13 THE COURT: You have one witness? All right. 14 And, Mr. Gonzalez, how many witnesses does the 15 Government have? 16 MR. GONZALEZ: Just the one. 17 THE COURT: Just the one? Okay. 18 All right. Ms. Guadarrama, if you will go ahead and 19 come forward. I am going to call your case next. All right? 20 Mr. Olivarez, can you please come forward. 21 All right. At this time, the Court calls 22 4:19-CR-277, the United States of America versus Rocky 23 Olivarez, Jr. 24 If I can have an appearance on behalf of the 25 Government, please.

1 MR. GONZALEZ: Your Honor, Ernest Gonzalez for the Government. The Government is ready to proceed. 2 3 THE COURT: All right. Thank you. 4 If I could have an appearance on behalf of 5 Mr. Olivarez. MS. GUADARRAMA: Linda Guadarrama for Mr. Olivarez. 6 7 And the defense is ready to proceed, Your Honor. 8 THE COURT: Thank you. Mr. Olivarez, can you please state your name for my 9 10 record. 11 THE DEFENDANT: Rocky Olivarez, Jr. 12 THE COURT: Thank you. And, sir, I just want to 13 You do speak and understand English. So you don't 14 need an interrupter to understand our proceedings here today; 15 is that correct? 16 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, ma'am. 17 THE COURT: We are scheduled here today to proceed on 18 the Government's motion for detention. I'll ask the Government 19 to confirm that it pursues in its request to detain 20 Mr. Olivarez. 21 MR. GONZALEZ: That's correct, Your Honor. 22 THE COURT: And, Ms. Guadarrama, I'll just confirm as 23 well that you and your client continue to desire a full 24 detention hearing.

MS. GUADARRAMA: That's correct, Your Honor.

1 THE COURT: Okay. You've each advised me that you 2 have one witness to present today. Before we turn to that, I'm 3 just going to confirm that each of the parties have had an 4 opportunity to review the pretrial services report in this case 5 and its recommendation for detention. Mr. Gonzalez. 6 7 MR. GONZALEZ: Yes, Your Honor. THE COURT: Ms. Guadarrama. 8 9 MS. GUADARRAMA: Yes, Your Honor. 10 THE COURT: Okay. And other than evidence that 11 you'll be presenting during the course of this hearing today, 12 are there any errors in that report that you want to draw to 13 the Court's attention at this time, Mr. Gonzalez? 14 MR. GONZALEZ: No. Your Honor. 15 THE COURT: Ms. Guadarrama. 16 MS. GUADARRAMA: Just one supplemental thing. Would 17 you like for me to point now? 18 THE COURT: Please. 19 MS. GUADARRAMA: There is a statement on here that 20 Mr. Olivarez was on probation during the time of this alleged 21 offense. But it fails to mention that his probation was 22 successfully discharged. It wasn't any kind of revocation or 23 anything like that.

THE COURT: Are you talking about the April 5, 2017?

MS. GUADARRAMA: The 2016 case. They were both

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1 successfully discharged. THE COURT: And I'm so sorry, Ms. Guadarrama. 2 3 looking here at the report. And let me make sure I'm looking at the right report. 4 5 Mr. Olivarez, I don't see a 2016. I see an Yes. April 5, 2017, at age 49 out of Dallas County Sheriff's office. 6 7 MS. GUADARRAMA: Right before that. 8 THE COURT: The 2015? MS. GUADARRAMA: The DWI. The period of 2016. 9 10 THE COURT: You're saying that 18 months' probation 11 in that particular term of probation was successfully 12 discharged? 13 MS. GUADARRAMA: Both of them were successful. There 14 were no revocations. 15 Okay. Thank you for clarifying that. THE COURT: 16 I'll just ask Mr. Gonzalez is this a presumption case? 17 MR. GONZALEZ: It is, Your Honor. 18 THE COURT: Ms. Guadarrama, do you concur? 19 MS. GUADARRAMA: Yes, Your Honor. 20 THE COURT: And have you had an opportunity to talk 21 with your client about what it means if this is a presumption 22 case? 23 No, Your Honor. MS. GUADARRAMA: THE COURT: Okay. If you'll take a step back from 24 25 that microphone and make sure that he understands what it

1 means, that this is a presumption case before we go forward. 2 MS. GUADARRAMA: Okay. Yes, Your Honor. 3 THE COURT: Thank you. (Discussion off the record.) 4 5 THE COURT: All right. Ms. Guadarrama, have you had 6 an opportunity to talk with your client now about what it means 7 that this is a presumption case? 8 MS. GUADARRAMA: Yes, Your Honor. I think we are 9 going to decide that it's not a presumption case and we would 10 like to hear from the DEA agent. 11 THE COURT: Okay. So you're challenging that this is 12 a presumption case? 13 MS. GUADARRAMA: Yes, Your Honor. 14 THE COURT: Okay. If I might ask, Mr. Gonzalez. 15 you specify the statutory basis under which you are arguing 16 that this is a presumption case? 17 MR. GONZALEZ: Your Honor, just based upon what the 18 defendant's already been charged with. I believe he's charged 19 in Count 2 and Count 3 on -- both of those counts allege 20 violations which carry a potential sentence of greater than ten 21 vears. Thereby, one, it's a narcotics charge and, secondly, 22 there is a punishment of more than ten years -- a potential 23 punishment of more than ten years that would make it a 24 presumption case.

THE COURT: All right.

And, Ms. Guadarrama, in light of the fact that this is a narcotics charge that carries that range of penalties and consequences, can you advise why you believe this is not a presumption case?

MS. GUADARRAMA: No, Your Honor. Not at this time.

THE COURT: Okay. And I just want to make sure I am understanding. You are not able to articulate at this time why you believe it's not a presumption case --

MS. GUADARRAMA: That is correct.

THE COURT: -- but you are continuing to argue it as not --

MS. GUADARRAMA: Yes, Your Honor. I just don't have enough information right now.

THE COURT: Okay. So I will give you an opportunity after the hearing, should you desire to submit briefing on whether -- why you believe it's not a presumption.

In light of the fact that the Government's argued that it is a presumption and on its face it is a narcotics charge, I'm just still going to ask you to confirm that you have explained to your client what a presumption case is.

MS. GUADARRAMA: Yes, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Okay. And in your opinion, does he understand what a presumption case, in the context of detention

MS. GUADARRAMA: Yes, Your Honor.

1 THE COURT: -- is? All right. In light of that, they -- Mr. Olivarez, if I can ask 2 3 you and Ms. Guadarrama to take a seat. 4 And the Government may call its first witness. 5 MR. GONZALEZ: Your Honor, the Government calls Special Agent Marcus West. 6 7 (Whereupon, the witness was sworn.) 8 THE COURT: Agent, if you could please state your 9 name for the record and please spell it. 10 THE WITNESS: Yes. My name's Marcus West. First 11 name, M-A-R-C-U-S; last name, W-E-S-T. 12 THE COURT: Thank you. 13 And with that, you may proceed, Mr. Gonzalez. 14 DIRECT EXAMINATION 15 BY MR. GONZALEZ: 16 Agent West, how are you employed? 17 I am a special agent with the Drug Enforcement Α. 18 Administration. And where are you presently stationed? 19 Q. 20 Α. Dallas, Texas. 21 Q. And pursuant to your duties with DEA, are you 22 familiar with an individual by the name of Rocky Olivarez, Jr.? 23 Α. I am. 24 Do you see that individual in the courtroom today? 25 Α. I do.

1 Would you point to where he's seated and state an article 2 of clothing that he's wearing? 3 Okay. Sitting here (indicating) with the pinstripe 4 jumpsuit on, light gray/dark gray, and a baby blue mask. 5 MR. GONZALEZ: Your Honor, may the record reflect 6 that the witness has identified the defendant, Rocky Olivarez, 7 Jr.? 8 THE COURT: Let's do this. Because I have three 9 gentlemen sitting in the courtroom right now in those articles 10 of clothing and baby blue masks, can you give me some further 11 defining features just so the record later is clear? 12 THE WITNESS: Okay. He's got a little white patch of 13 hair on the front part of his head and has a -- maybe a little 14 bit of a shadow of a beard coming out. 15 MR. GONZALEZ: Let me do this. You're talking about 16 this area; correct? 17 THE WITNESS: Yes. 18 MR. GONZALEZ: If this person is number 1 and this 19 person is number 2, which person would he be? 20 THE WITNESS: Person Number 2. 21 THE COURT: All right. 22 And with that, the record shall reflect that Agent 23 West has properly identified the defendant. 24 MR. GONZALEZ: All right.

(BY MR. GONZALEZ) Now, Agent West, can you summarize your

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Q.

investigation that led to the identification of the defendant as well as his indictment and arrest?

A. Yes, sir. We started investigating a cocaine, marijuana, heroin, methamphetamine, Xanax, and some fentanyl drug trafficking organization based out of Durango, Mexico. And the leader of that organization was a subject here locally as Rafael Gallegos (phonetic) and his dad was Rafael Galindo (phonetic) Gallegos. Both of them now fugitives in Durango, Mexico.

We started investigating that group. We were able to make controlled purchases of cocaine, controlled purchases of methamphetamine, multiple seizures of firearms that were being trafficked and sent or exported to Mexico to support the Sinaloa Cartel.

So as I testified to earlier, Mr. Duolingo Gallegos and Mr. Gallegos are both members of the Sinaloa Cartel. And, again, they're down in Durango, Mexico. Those firearms were being exported to Durango, Mexico, to support the cartel and their battle against other rival drug trafficking members and/or subjects. And, also to the military police. That being said, we were able to make multiple seizures in this case and targeted that group here in the Dallas, Texas, area, specifically Rafael Gallegos lived in Plano, Texas.

- Q. And about when did your investigation begin?
- A. So our -- my actual investigation when I started looking

at this group started in 2019. But the seizure of multiple drug ledgers led us back to as early as 2017 with this group.

- Q. And based on your investigation, were you able to determine the mode of operation? How was this organization distributing its drugs? How was this organization getting its drugs that were then being distributed?
- A. So the primary smuggling method that this organization used was trailers. So they had trap compartments built into these trailers, in the floor of the trailers. And they would smuggle the drugs through the United States in those trailers. And if you're familiar with kind of like a shuttle service like Super Shuttle or other like shuttle service that transport people and luggage, there is a services that goes from Mexico to the United States. And weekly this service would pull this trailer filled with luggage, filled with people inside a van, and that -- and those trailers were filled with cocaine and heroin.

So on the flip side of that, the trailers, when they went down south to Mexico, they would load those false compartments or cover loads with, like, water heaters, washers and dryers, TVs. They would load it with millions of dollars of proceeds that would go down to Mexico. That would continue back and forth on a weekly basis to Dallas, Texas, and, also, to Chicago, Illinois.

Q. And your records indicated or the ledgers indicated that

this was going on all the way back to 2017?

A. Yes, sir. That is correct.

trailer.

- Q. And what quantities of drugs were they importing or bringing into the United States in those trailers?
 - A. So on the cocaine/heroin side to the Dallas, Texas, area, it was 40 kilos of cocaine and heroin up to the Dallas, Texas, side. How do we know that? We made seizures on June 18th. We seized a trailer that was offloaded and a stash house was loaded with cocaine and heroin was approximately 40 kilograms. And then also on that same trailer was a water heater that contained almost a million dollars in U.S. currency. So we were able to actually see what was on that trailer or was being smuggled. We happened to hit it at the right time, you know, the money and the drugs were together on June 18th in that

So we're talking kilograms, to answer your question -- kilograms of cocaine and heroin. They also did dabble in distributing methamphetamine in the kilos also. And thousands and thousands of fentanyl pills and Xanax pills were also a part of their drug distribution here in the United States.

- Q. How frequently were those loads coming into the United States for distribution?
- A. Those loads were coming in -- those trailers, on a weekly basis. We know that through electronic surveillance, physical

surveillance of reliable and credible testimony from cooperating defendants and sources, and so you put that all together, and we were able to come up with a pattern of a weekly basis to Dallas and Chicago. One trailer to Dallas and one trailer to Chicago would go. And then one would come back to Dallas where the money was aggregated and it was sent down to Durango, Mexico, to Mr. Duolingo Gallegos.

- And the money that was aggregated you said was in the millions: correct?
- 10 In the millions. And we know that from seizures that we've made. We've made multiple money seizures, one 12 specifically coming down from Chicago where we seized 103,000 13 in U.S. currency. And, again, on that particular date, June 14 18th, 2020, we seized on that date U.S. currency of 15 approximately almost four million in cash, on that date from 16 different locations. But specifically from that trailer and a 17 water heater there was almost a million dollars in U.S. 18 currency that was going down to Mexico.
 - Now, you talked about the leadership of the organization and that they're now hiding or are fugitives in Durango, Mexico; is that correct?
- 22 That's correct. Α.

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- 23 And how do you know that? Q.
- 24 So I know that through multiple sources and also through 25 sources that are in Mexico. They're telling us, "Hey, these

people are showing up down here." And so I was able to do a telephone brief of multiple sources to determine that, oh, yeah, that's the guy that's been indicted in this case. And they are all U.S. citizens -- a majority of them are U.S. citizens, not all of them. But a majority of the people that have fled down there are U.S. citizens, and they're visiting one common spot, which is Mr. Duolingo Gallegos's ranch in Durango, Mexico, and a lot of them are held up there just kind of, I guess, vacationing -- I mean hiding out from law enforcement. And there's probably, I would say, approximately eight to ten of them down in Mexico that are doing that.

Q. And as the leaders of the organization, do you have any

- Q. And as the leaders of the organization, do you have any information that they've instructed any of the members of the organization to flee or that they could go to Mexico if they chose to and that they would be received there and that they could hide out there if necessary?
- A. Yes. There are defendants in this case that we have interviewed that are in custody right now that have been contacted by Mr. Gallegos, the son of Mr. Duolingo Gallegos, and solicited or recruited to go down there to -- that they would cover their expenses to go down there and to avoid law enforcement detection. But those defendants are -- rejected those offers, and, you know, we were able to arrest them and get that information out of them. But a few of the defendants in this case have been solicited to go to Mexico to avoid DEA's

∥ arrest.

- Q. Now, you said this organization is connected or associated with the Sinaloa Cartel. Is that cartel a violent cartel?
- A. It is a very violent cartel.
- Q. And is it well resourced?
- 6 A. Very well resourced.
 - Q. Has sufficient manpower or resources to hide somebody or conceal somebody in Mexico if necessary?
 - A. Yes, they do.
 - Q. And now, you also talked about firearms being involved in this organization and the exportation of firearms from the United States to Mexico. Tell us about that.
 - A. So in this investigation, in November of 2019, DEA executed a search warrant at a storage shed. We did learn that they were gathering a cache of weapons or firearms to build up to send to Mexico. With that information, we learned that the firearms were going to Mexico potentially to harm somebody. We reacted, and we executed a search warrant at a storage shed where we seized eight to nine firearms. That was just a small amount of firearms. They were building these firearms up. So as I testified to earlier, we did seize drug ledgers in this investigation, and one of those ledgers was not a drug ledger. It was actually a firearms ledgers, where they were keeping a running total of firearms that they were purchasing from different members of this organization to send to Mexico:

Glock handguns, ammunition, targets, ear and eye protection, sniper rifles, AK-47s. And specifically speaking to a cooperating defendant in this case, two of the firearms purchased for the organization was purchased by Mr. Olivarez.

- Q. Okay. We'll talk about Mr. Olivarez here in a little bit.
- A. Yes, sir.

- Q. Generally speaking, those ledgers -- let's talk about those ledgers. You talked about the indication of firearms being purchased and annotated in the ledgers. What about the drugs? What is the amount of drugs this organization has been involved with? What do the ledgers show?
- A. So in the drug ledgers, they were analyzed by FBI in Quantico, Virginia, for a period of 201- -- so it goes back -- approximately back a year and a half in 2019 to 2018. And then those drug ledgers, again, it's just a snapshot. We're only able to see approximately 13 drug ledgers in this investigation from a cooperating defendant. So in a 1.5-year period, FBI was able to determine that this drug trafficking organization in the Dallas, Texas, area collected \$5.7 million in cash. And in kilos, there were hundreds and hundreds of kilo of cocaine, methamphetamine, heroin, and Xanax and fentanyl distributed just in the Dallas, Texas, area alone. So, again, that is just a snapshot for a year and a half.

Why is it a snapshot? Because the cooperating defendant destroyed numerous drug ledgers, and what I mean by

- that is shredding them or burning them so that someone like me would not find them and use that against them. But we were lucky. In November we were able to get 16 of them and do the analysis of those drug ledgers.
 - Q. But that same cooperating defendant or individual, did he indicate if this organization had been operational more than a year and a half prior?
- A. That is correct. They -- or so our timeline starts in 2017.
- Q. And have you been able to corroborate a lot of the information provided by that cooperating defendant as well as other sources that you have in this investigation?
- A. I have.

- 14 Q. Do you believe the information that they provided you,
 15 that had been truthful and credible?
- 16 A. I believe that it's been truthful and credible.
- Q. Now, specifically looking at Mr. Olivarez, what did they tell you, either the cooperating defendants or cooperating sources about the involvement of the defendant in this organization?
 - A. Yes, sir. So as we're investigating, as we're interviewing the cooperating defendant and looking at the drug ledgers and taking copies of those drug ledgers and taking copies of those drug ledgers to the cooperating defendant and showing the cooperating defendant, you know, again it's just

names in drug ledgers. I don't know the names. I mean, like there are names like Pinicola and Rocky and Salo. So you see all these names in there, but those are just names to me. What helps for those names to have faces is that the cooperating defendant is able to say, "That's this person here, Rocky Olivarez. And I've dealt with him this many times. And those entries in there are cocaine or that entry in there is methamphetamine."

And so although Mr. Olivarez, he is listed in there as Rocky, R-O-C-K-Y, and sometimes they write it R-O-C-K-I in the drug ledgers. But we have in there about \$58,000 worth of transactions that occurred with the drug trafficking organization. So a photo has been displayed to the cooperating defendant and we get an identification there. Not just one photo of just Rocky with Rocky. It's a photo of like maybe 40 photos that are lined up and they go through them, and they are able to see this is Rocky right here. They are able to identify their house, and then we continue our investigation of Mr. Olivarez being a member of this drug trafficking organization.

Q. And, again, you were able to corroborate his information. Did the cooperating defendant or cooperating sources identify individuals in the ledgers and then those individuals were arrested and then, they themselves, admitted that they were involved to that level and that degree as

indicated in the ledgers?

- A. So yes. To answer your question, yes. But because of COVID, we haven't been able to pick up a lot of them. But a majority of them we have picked up that had been listed in the ledgers. For example, Sergio is in the ledger of saying like, "Yeah, that's me and I was a customer of this organization." Yeah, so as you go down, no one has refuted or denied that that was their name in the drug ledgers after -- you know, during our investigation.
- Q. And you were able to identify, as in your example, as you indicated, Sergio, because of that cooperating defendant or cooperating sources identifying them.
- A. That, and then we back-doored through looking at their telephone numbers and, you know, looking at subscriber information and telephone numbers, and then we go out and do surveillance. And then we, you know, take surveillance photos. So there's a lot that goes into it. Just that based off of his word. And then them corroborating as we're moving along, but then you look at someone that has a phone for a long time, and then we start talking to other DEA offices that also has Mr. Olivarez as a target investigation in other parts of Texas that is looking at him for drug trafficking methamphetamine. So when you put that all together and it -- we're corroborating our defendant.
- Q. What offices are those that are investigating

Mr. Olivarez?

- A. So as that information is coming in, of course, I'm doing research and I'm looking at databases, and I see Mr. Olivarez is popped up in different DEA investigations. Once in Corpus Christi where they actually put a tracker on his vehicle and they were tracking his movements. I don't know the details of that tracking device yet, but they did track his vehicle. And, also, an agent out of San Antonio, Texas -- again they identified Mr. Olivarez as the methamphetamine distributor who was distributing Aryan Circle members out in that area in the San Antonio area. So we get together. We have telephone calls. We start sharing information with one another. And, again, I get the photo, I look at the photo, and it's Rocky Olivarez, the same photo that I showed the defendant.
- Q. And you've put tracking devices on vehicles; correct?
- 18 A. That's correct.
 - Q. You're familiar with the fact that it requires probable cause for a judge to order or allow someone to put a tracking device on a vehicle.
- 22 A. That's true.
- Q. And you said that was accomplished in Corpus
 Christi on this defendant's vehicle; is that correct?
- 25 A. That's correct.

- Q. So some agent in Corpus Christi had to have gone to the judge in order to get an order to put a tracker on his vehicle.
- 3 A. That's true.

- Q. Now, you said that he was mentioned in regards to firearms. What specifically was mentioned in the ledgers in regards to firearms and the defendant?
 - A. It isn't so much that -- so the ledgers did have names, but there were a lot of unidentified people in the ledgers that were supplying firearms. But according to the cooperating defendant, that, during their relationship, or as Mr. Olivarez was a customer of the drug trafficking organization, he supplied two firearms, two handguns to the organization for -- for compensation as getting paid. But those firearms were then ultimately sent to Mexico to cartel members down there.
 - Q. And what happens to the firearms that are sent to the cartel members in Mexico?
 - A. You know, they arm themselves. Again, they use them to fight law enforcement, to fight the military down there, to protect themselves, and also to fight other cartel members.
 - Q. And based on your investigation, can you estimate the amount of time that the defendant was involved in receiving drugs from the organization?
- A. Based on my investigation, it was back to the -early 2018 and up to 2020 to present day, June 18th, I would
 say. I don't know what happened after June 18 is when we did

our takedown, and Mr. Olivarez had a trailer that was registered to him that was -- again, as I testified to earlier, the trailers that were going down to Mexico and back from Mexico, some of those trailers were registered in Mr. Olivarez's name with his address at Shay (phonetic) Street. And so, again, we made -- his actual trailer we seized almost a million dollars in cash in that trailer, and, also that trailer was equipped with a very sophisticated track device that the floor lowered to the ground, and it had 40 compartments that were rectangular that you could put kilos in of cocaine and heroin. And that license plate was registered to Mr. Rocky Olivarez.

- Q. How many trailers was this organization running at one time?
- A. So this tra- -- this organization was running approximately six trailers at one time, different license plates. A couple of them were registered to Mr. Olivarez. Interestingly enough, as we go to look for Mr. Olivarez on September 25th, 2020, we look in his backyard and he has, I think, three utility trailers lined up back there, like newly purchased just sitting there. I don't know anything more than that. But I could visually see that he had trailers back there, and then the Chevy Tahoe that was described to me that had the tracking device on it was in the backyard too.

Q. Tell us about the arrest.

A. So the arrest of Mr. Olivarez was -- we needed to return that trailer back to him because it was registered to him and we were not seizing it. We were able to destroy the track device in there and remove it. And so we went to his house. I believe it's 2154 Shay Road, in Dallas, Texas. And when we went up there, we weren't able to make any contact with him, but we knew that he lived there.

So, again, we started asking neighbors. We were able to determine that his mom worked at a nearby laundrymat. We went to that laundrymat [sic] and he was not there. Contacted Ms. Olivarez, I believe, if that's the mom's name. So as we made contact with her, she calls Mr. Olivarez, Rocky Olivarez, to come pick up the trailer.

And as we're sitting in the parking lot, we have our vest on, police; we have marked units there. Or actually the vehicle that pulled the trailer was an unmarked patrol unit. And he drove through the parking lot. We waved at him, waved him down. He continued to drive, on and we had to contact Ms. Olivarez to call him back to come back to meet with us. Ultimately, he came back and we released the trailer to him, and that's when we took him into custody.

- Q. He wasn't aware that you had an indictment and a warrant for him; correct?
- A. Well, I don't know that. He was surprised. He did say,

"Hey, like, what's this about?" and stuff like that. But I don't know if he knew that. Because, again, he was really closely connected to Mr. Duolingo Gallegos, who was down in Mexico. He was trusted by him. He did -- again, the trailer was a deal that -- a deal that he struck up with that group down in Mexico to get those trailers. And I do know through defendants that Mr. Rocky Olivarez is close associates with Duolingo Gallegos. There were outstanding drug debts owed by Mr. Olivarez that were actually wiped clean by Mr. Duolingo Gallegos because they were close friends.

- Q. Now, have you had an opportunity to examine his criminal history?
- 13 A. I have.

- Q. What do you know his criminal history to be?
 - A. I know his criminal history to be for him to be a convicted felon. I know that it dates back to, I want to say, 1993, I believe, where, you know, you have a couple of DWIs, you do have a manufactured delivery of a controlled substance. And I believe there was some time spent at the Texas Department of Corrections. I do know through the DEA database that he was or he did participate with an undercover. They did not file charges on him back in 2003, I believe. The undercover purchased an ounce of methamphetamine from Mr. Olivarez in Dallas, Texas. But, again, the charges were never filed for

Mr. Olivarez because he ended up, I believe, going off or

- 1 getting sentenced and going to jail.
- Q. So you know he's got a history that dates back to the age of 27; correct?
 - A. Yeah. I believe he was middle-aged then. Yes.
- Q. And he was convicted at that time for manufacturing and delivery of a controlled substance and was sentenced to six years and five years on two different counts.
- 8 A. Yes. That's correct.
- 9 Q. And, again, in 2002, he was again convicted for 10 manufacturing and delivering of a controlled substance.
- 11 A. That's correct.

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- 12 Q. And received ten years on that sentence?
- 13 A. Yes. That is correct.
- Q. Are you familiar whether he was on any kind of supervision at the time that he was committing this instant offense, this trafficking activity that he's now charged with?
 - during this conspiracy that we were investigating -- so the drug ledgers go back for Mr. Olivarez to 2019, 2018, a year and a half back to 2019. He is listed in the drug ledgers. He's listed in there doing transactions. The total amount is

I believe that he was on probation during -- or parole --

- 22 \$58,000. And so on that time that he was doing those
- 23 transactions, he was on probation. Also, I don't know the
- 24 conditions of his probation at the time, but he was also
- 25 | traveling and meeting with undercovers and those investigations

- in Corpus Christi and also in -- I don't know if San Antonio,but I know in Corpus Christi, though.
 - Q. He was meeting with undercover officers for what purpose in Corpus Christi?
 - A. To negotiate methamphetamine transactions.
 - Q. And that would have been during the time period that he was on probation or some sort of supervision?
 - A. That's correct.
 - Q. Now, based on the totality of your investigation, the context that you indicate that he has or the friendship that he has with the individuals in Mexico, have you formed an opinion as to whether this defendant would be a continuing risk of flight or threat to the community?
- 14 A. I have.

- 15 Q. And what's your opinion? And what do you base that on?
 - A. I base that on his close relationship that he has with Mr. Duolingo Gallegos. Again, he was a trusted associate of this organization to obtain those trailers that had the false compartments in it to go to Mexico. I know that being -- that having that close relationship to Mr. Duolingo Gallegos, I feel that knowing that he has been arrested, that that would be offered to him also like the other ones, the other people in

Again, the people that have gone down there and they're living down there right now avoiding arrest by DEA are

this organization to go down to Mexico.

not the highest level people. They are people that are like drivers. They are people that are distributors. They are just people that are -- their roles in the organization are just like Mr. Olivarez, you know, customers.

So -- so he does have safe passage to Mexico through Mr. Duolingo Gallegos. And, also, the dangerous part is the firearms that -- that the cooperating defendant told me about him supplying. That is dangerous. That is dangerous for agents down there in Mexico working on the U.S. side and also for the military and the police officers and citizens of Mexico, and also locally here. Some of those firearms could have been used to use in offenses here in the United States. And so that's my opinion about him being a danger and a flight risk.

Q. Thank you, Agent.

MR. GONZALEZ: No further questions.

THE COURT: Ms. Guadarrama.

CROSS-EXAMINATION

BY MS. GUADARRAMA:

- Q. Yes. Agent West, I just have a few questions, please.
- 22 A. Yes, ma'am.

Q. You say that Mr. Olivarez was on probation. Did you see
whether or not his probation was ever revoked or that he was
successfully discharged?

- A. I did not see that it was revoked. I believe that he completed it successfully, as it's noted.
- Q. And on September 25th when you arrested -- were you the one that actually went to the house and arrested Olivarez?
 - A. Actually, we arrested him at the laundrymat. So I was actually the one that actually put handcuffs on him, yes.
 - Q. Were there other agents with you?
 - A. Yes.

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- 9 Q. Who all was with you?
- 10 A. It was Jim Wickham (phonetic), Eric Womas (phonetic), and
 11 Brett Salsman (phonetic).
- 12 Q. And you said you had an opportunity to look in the 13 backyard of Mr. Olivarez's home. Did you see other trailers?
- 14 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. And did you see Jet Skis back there or other type of equipment?
- A. You know, now that you mention -- I do remember the Jet Skis, and Jet Skis do come up in this investigation. Yes, I believe that that was back there.
- Q. So you're not telling the Court that it's illegal to buy and sell trailers: correct?
- A. No. I'm telling the Court that it's -- it's
 illegal to install trailers with track devices and
 then buy them for an organization to transport methamphetamine
 and drugs and firearms and then bring dope into this country

- 1 and send drug proceeds. That's what I'm telling the Court.
- 2 Q. Okay. But I'm just --
- 3 A. For an organization -- for that head honcho or the boss of
- 4 | the Sinaloa Cartel -- and not the Sinaloa, but a top member of
- 5 the Sinaloa Cartel. That's what I'm saying.
- 6 Q. Okay. But you're not telling the Court that it's illegal
- 7 | just to buy and sell trailers, just in general?
- 8 A. In general, no.
- 9 Q. Okay. It's not illegal to buy Jet Skis?
- 10 A. No.
- 11 **Q**. Correct?
- 12 A. No.
- 13 Q. And is there any evidence that Mr. Olivarez was the person
- 14 | that converted these trailers to have secretive compartments?
- 15 | Is that your allegation or not?
- 16 A. At this moment, I don't have any information that he was
- 17 | building the track devices in them, but we're actively
- 18 | investigating that part.
- 19 Q. And it's not illegal to buy and sell guns; is that
- 20 correct? There are gun shows everywhere.
- 21 A. There are stipulations, you know, if you're
- 22 | illegally in this country or if you are a felon, if you're a
- 23 drug user; there are parts of it that are illegal to it. But,
- 24 yeah, a citizen that has no record like that -- yeah, you can
- 25 | buy guns, but not to sell it to, you know, drug traffickers,

- you know. Or in Mr. Olivarez's case, he's a convicted felon; so you can't do that.
 - Q. Now, you said that there was a cooperating defendant that kept identifying Mr. Olivarez. And who is that cooperating defendant?

MR. GONZALEZ: Objection. Irrelevant.

THE COURT: I don't think it's relevant to the detention decision here today.

- Q. (BY MS. GUADARRAMA) Are there other defendants besides this one cooperating defendant that has named Mr. Olivarez as a -- as an involved participant?
- 12 A. Yes.

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- 13 Q. So how many others?
- 14 A. So all together, two cooperating defendants.
- 15 Q. Okay. With regard to Mr. Olivarez's risk of
- 16 | flight or -- when you arrested him, would you say he was
- 17 compliant?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Did he resist arrest or anything like that?
- 20 A. He did not.
- 21 Q. He didn't try to evade or run?
- 22 A. Well, so -- I believe that he saw us first in the parking
- 23 lot, and he continued to drive through. We had
- 24 (indecipherable) on the call and tell him to come back, and we
- 25 waited for a while, but he saw us. Again, we were marked. We

had police gear on. We had police cars with lights and sounds on it in the parking lot. We had his trailer hitched to the back. He drove through. He saw the agents there. We waved him down and he continued to drive on. We had to go to his mom and start over there and talk to him about that.

Q. Okay. But he did come back?

- A. Yeah. On the second try -- on the second one. Yes.
- Q. Okay. What exactly -- could you specify what exactly ties Mr. Olivarez to Rafael Gallegos?
 - A. Again, I'll go back. It was cooperating defendant's testimony that we started an investigation where his name, Rocky, was listed in the drug ledger, you know, a few times, and we asked him who this Rocky Olivarez was, and we started our investigation by identifying Rocky Olivarez that's listed in this drug ledger buying cocaine and methamphetamine. And so his connection is we'll continue to ask the defendant questions, and we find out that Mr. Olivarez is a close friend of Mr. Duolingo Gallegos, who is the main leader, organizer, source of supply in this Sinaloa in Mexico; and that's the relationship. That's the connection to that. And, also to his son, Mr. Rafael Gallegos. He has a close relationship with him too. Not like the dad, but there is connection; they do know each other.
 - Q. Have you ever seen surveillance video of Rocky Olivarez with either Duolingo Gallegos or Rafael Gallegos?

- 1 A. No.
- 2 Q. You don't have any phone calls tying those two together;
- 3 | is that correct? Tying Mr. Olivarez to either of the Gallegos;
- 4 is that correct?
- 5 A. Right now, no.
- 6 Q. Do you have any evidence that Mr. Olivarez
- 7 benefited from or had any proceeds from any of these
- 8 | transactions?
- 9 A. What do you mean by that?
- 10 Q. Did you find any large amounts of cash when you arrested
- 11 | him? Did you search his house to see what you might have
- 12 | found?
- 13 A. Okay. So I can answer that. Search the house, no.
- 14 Proceeds, I'm guessing he had over a thousand dollars. I know
- 15 he's unemployed. He's been unemployed for a while. But as far
- 16 | as proceeds, I mean, for a person being unemployed and living
- 17 | with their mom, I mean over a thousand dollars, I would think,
- 18 is pretty good.
- 19 Q. That's the extent of that?
- 20 A. That's the extent, yeah.
- 21 MS. GUADARRAMA: Your Honor, could I have just a
- 22 second?
- 23 We pass the witness, Your Honor.
- 24 THE COURT: Agent West, before I allow Mr. Gonzales
- 25 to ask any further questions, I just want to clarify that the

1 Court understands the quantities that you're alleging or are 2 specifically attributable to this defendant. Am I correct that 3 your testimony is that there are \$58,000 worth of transactions that you can tie directly to this defendant of cocaine and/or 4 5 heroin? Cocaine and methamphetamine. 6 THE WITNESS: Yes. 7 THE COURT: Okay. Thank you for clarifying. 8 THE WITNESS: Uh-huh. 9 THE COURT: And then as it relates to the June 18th 10

THE COURT: And then as it relates to the June 18th seizure, the one that you're telling me had a million dollars in the water heater, you're telling me the trailer that that million dollars was found in was registered to this defendant?

THE WITNESS: Yes. And that trailer has been observed multiple times going through Mexico -- to Mexico and back from Mexico. And cooperating defendants will tell you each time it was either loaded with money or drugs.

THE COURT: Thank you.

Mr. Gonzalez, any further questions of this witness?

MR. GONZALEZ: No, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Okay.

Ms. Guadarrama, in light of the fact that I asked those two clarifying questions, do you have any further...

MS. GUADARRAMA: No, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Okay. Agent West, you may step down.

THE WITNESS: Thank you.

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               THE COURT: Does the Government have any further
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     witnesses or evidence to present to this Court at this time?
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               MR. GONZALEZ: No, Your Honor. No further witnesses
     or evidence.
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               THE COURT: All right.
               Ms. Guadarrama, you may call your witness.
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 7
               MS. GUADARRAMA: I call Erica Verdiguel, his
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     daughter.
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               THE COURT: Ma'am, if you'll please come forward to
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     be sworn.
11
               (Whereupon, the witness was sworn.)
12
               THE WITNESS:
                             I do.
13
               THE COURT: Ma'am, once you're seated, could you
14
     please state your full name for the record and then spell it,
15
     please.
16
               THE WITNESS: My name's Erica Verdiguel. It's
17
     E-R-I-C-A and V, as in "Victor," -E-R-D-I-G-U-E-L.
18
               THE COURT: Ms. Guadarrama, you may proceed.
19
                           DIRECT EXAMINATION
20
     BY MS. GUADARRAMA:
21
         Ms. Verdiguel, how are you related to Rocky
22
    Olivarez, Jr.?
23
         I'm his eldest daughter.
    Α.
24
     Q.
         Okay. And how many other children does Rocky have?
25
     Α.
         One other.
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- 1 \ Q. And is that -- who is that?
- 2 | A. Ashley -- Ashley Olivarez, my younger sister.
- 3 Q. Is she here today present in the courtroom?
- 4 ∥ A. She is.
- Q. Okay. Who else is here present in the courtroom with you
- 6 | today?
- 7 A. Augustina Olivarez, which is my grandmother, Rocky
- 8 | Olivarez's mother.
- 9 Q. Okay. Does Rocky live with his mother?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 \ Q. Can you give me the address on that?
- 12 A. 2154 Shay Road --
- 13 Q. And --
- 14 A. -- Dallas, Texas.
- 15 | Q. And how long have they lived there?
- 16 A. He lived there for ten-plus years. Maybe on and off with
- 17 girlfriends, but generally since my grandpa passed away four
- 18 years ago.
- 19 Q. Okay. And your grandpa passed away about two
- 20 years ago?
- 21 A. Four years ago. 2016.
- 22 Q. Four years? Okay.
- 23 And how long has your grandmother lived there?
- 24 A. Oh, 50-plus years.
- 25 Q. Okay. So let's just say, within the last year, what has

- 1 Rocky Olivarez done to help your mom?
- 2 A. My grandma, she's elderly; so she has lots of
- 3 medical appointments. Many times to go to the doctor for her
- 4 prescription as well. My dad does the grocery shopping.
- 5 | Especially with COVID he helps take care of her as well. Takes
- 6 her wherever she needs to go. My grandma also does not read or
- 7 write; so he helps in her regards to that. As well as she has
- 8 diabetes; so -- pretty high, and so he takes care of her with
- 9 all of those.
- 10 Q. Does he help monitor her medications every day?
- 11 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 12 Q. Okay. And if he were not able to return home, you know,
- 13 | in the foreseeable future, who would be able to take care of
- 14 your grandmother?
- 15 \parallel A. Well, my sister and myself would have to step in, but we
- 16 do have our own homes and families as well.
- 17 | Q. So y'all don't have time to devote to your
- 18 grandmother like Mr. Olivarez does for his mother; is that
- 19 | correct?
- 20 A. That is correct.
- 21 Q. Okay. So would you consider that a hardship if
- 22 Mr. Olivarez was -- were to be detained on this case for a long
- 23 period of time?
- 24 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 25 Q. Is -- would you consider your dad close to his family?

- 1 A. Yes, very close.
- 2 Q. Okay. And why do you say that?
- A. We are a close-knit family. We do family dinners every
- 4 week. My dad helps with his grandkids, my son and my niece,
- 5 along with the responsibilities of my grandmother.
- 6 Q. And do you-all have any immediate family members in
- 7 Mexico?
- 8 A. No, ma'am.
- 9 Q. Okay. So have you ever known that -- your dad to go to
- 10 Mexico?
- 11 A. No.
- 12 | Q. When the officers were at the house for him to be
- 13 | arrested, he basically turned himself in; is that correct?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. Okay. And in his past, he's been facing prison time.
- 16 Does he always still go to court as far as you know?
- 17 A. Yes. He's been very diligent with -- whenever -- in the
- 18 past, he's always been diligent and never been a flight risk.
- 19 Q. Okay. He's never had any type of assaultive type of
- 20 offenses in his history; is that correct?
- 21 A. Not that I know of.
- Q. Okay. And are you asking the judge to grant him a bond so
- 23 | that he can be released during the pendency of this case?
- 24 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 25 Q. Okay. And if it is appropriate to -- to give the Court

- more assurance that he's not going to leave, to put either a

 GPS monitor device or an electronic monitoring device on his

 ankle to assure that he would come to court?
 - A. Yes. If there was need of assurance with tracking bracelet or anything, I think he would definitely comply with whatever the Court allows for him to be bonded out.
 - Q. So if he were -- do you feel that he could do house arrest and stay confined to his home during the pendency of this case?
 - A. Yes, ma'am.

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- Q. As a last resort, if the Court would require as a condition of bond a certain amount of cash to ensure his appearance, the family could work on doing that and coming up with that? Is that correct?
- 14 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 15 Q. The prosecutor has some questions for you. Thank you.

MS. GUADARRAMA: I'll pass the witness.

THE WITNESS: Okay.

CROSS-EXAMINATION

BY MR. GONZALEZ:

- Q. Ma'am, you're not saying that you would not pitch in and take care of his mother or your grandmother; right?
- 22 A. Correct.
- 23 Q. You would do that, wouldn't you?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. So if that were necessary, you and your sister would pitch

- 1 in and do some of the things that you're saying that the
- 2 defendant is now doing for her; correct?
- 3 A. Correct.
- 4 Q. Now, are you familiar with an individual by the name of
- 5 Rafael Gallegos?
- 6 A. No.
- 8 A. No.
- 9 Q. Do you know of the relationship of your father to that
- 10 individual?
- 11 A. No.
- 12 | Q. Are they friends?
- 13 A. I don't know.
- 14 Q. Okay. So you've never heard of him. What about any
- 15 business transactions with Mr. Gallegos?
- 16 A. I don't know any of.
- 17 Q. Okay. So you indicated that your father has been
- 18 compliant anytime that he's been to prison and come out;
- 19 | correct?
- 20 | A. Correct.
- 21 Q. So if the information the agent just gave that he was
- 22 | involved in this conspiracy while he was on probation, you
- 23 would agree with me that he hasn't been compliant with his
- 24 probation.
- 25 **|** A. This is the first I've heard of it.

- 1 Q. Okay. How -- how often do you talk to him? How often do
- 2 you see him?
- 3 ∥ A. With him?
- 4 | Q. Yes.
- 5 A. Weekly.
- 6 Q. So --
- 7 A. Daily sometimes.
- 8 Q. -- okay. So being that you see him weekly or
- 9 daily, you're not familiar with some of the individuals that he
- 10 associates with?
- 11 A. No.
- 12 | Q. And you would agree with me that someone that gets off a
- 13 parole in 2017 and is alleged to have been involved again in
- 14 2018 and 2019 in the same type of activity, that would be
- 15 someone that could be a danger to society; correct?
- 16 A. You're asking if he could be a danger to society?
- 17 **Q**. Yes.
- 18 A. Personally, no.
- 19 Q. You don't think that a person that has been
- 20 convicted previously for drug trafficking and then comes out in
- 21 2017 and then goes right back to it in 2018, you don't see that
- 22 person as a danger to society?
- 23 A. He's my father. So, no, I do not.
- 24 Q. Oh, because it's your father?
- 25 A. Correct.

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If it was someone else -- well let me put it this way.
 1
     Q.
 2
     it was someone else, would that person be a danger to society?
 3
         Well, he hasn't been tried. There's no evidence at this
 4
     time. So I would say no still.
 5
     Q.
         Okay.
               MR. GONZALEZ: I have no further questions, Your
 6
 7
     Honor.
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               THE COURT: Ms. Guadarrama, anything further for this
9
    witness?
10
                                No, Your Honor.
               MS. GUADARRAMA:
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               THE COURT: Thank you, ma'am. You may step down.
12
               THE WITNESS:
                             Thank you.
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               THE COURT: Ms. Guadarrama, do you have any further
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    witnesses to present?
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               MS. GUADARRAMA: That's all we have, Your Honor.
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               THE COURT: All right. At this time, in light of the
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     fact that there is a dispute regarding this is a presumption
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     case, I'll hear from Mr. Gonzalez, first in argument.
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               MR. GONZALEZ: And the Government would argue that
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     this defendant is a continuing threat of flight as well as a
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     threat as to the community because of prior criminal history.
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     The defendant has indicated in the pretrial services report was
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     finished with his parole in 2017 but soon thereafter in 2018
24
     and 2019, as testified by the agent who corroborated the
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information from cooperating defendants and cooperating

sources, was right back involved in assisting a large drug trafficking organization and the distribution of drugs as well as purchasing of firearms for payment of drugs.

We would argue that the information provided by the defendant's daughter has not rebutted the presumption. As indicated by her last few answers, she's not willing to accept or even consider that someone with this prior criminal history would be someone that would be a contributing threat to the community. And I would argue that that is an indication that she would not turn her own father in if he was violating any conditions of release.

We would agree that the presumption has not been rebutted, that the information presented by the Government is that this defendant was providing the trailers that were trafficking in drugs as indicated by the agent. There were two trailers that were registered to him that were being used on a weekly basis to import large quantity of drugs, cocaine, and methamphetamine that were then distributed and that large proceeds were then sent back to Mexico. The agent also testified that other members of this organization has already fled and are hiding in Mexico and that the individuals in Mexico have invited individuals here in the U.S. to flee to Mexico to avoid prosecution and arrest.

So we would argue that the totality of the information provided by the Government has not been rebutted

and that the defendant should remain detained.

THE COURT: Thank you.

Ms. Guadarrama.

MS. GUADARRAMA: Yes. Your Honor.

Mr. Olivarez has no criminal history of any type of assaultive offenses where he would be a risk to the community. There -- the only evidence according to the agent is that a trailer was involved that his name -- that was registered to his name. There was not any -- he said there is not any surveillance of Mr. Olivarez connected to Mr. Gallegos. No phone calls or anything like that that connects them.

So at this early stage in this case, we're asking that -- the Court to grant his bond so that he can remain in house -- in his home helping his mother, because it would be a hardship otherwise.

Anytime -- as far as a flight risk matter goes, anytime Mr. Olivarez has been facing prison time, you don't see bond forfeitures on his felony cases. He reported on his DWI and got successfully discharged. He complied with law enforcement. He didn't resist arrest in this particular case. He complied with the officers. He's a compliant type of person, and like I said, even when he was looking at prison time, he didn't flee. And he's not going to flee. He has his family here. He's devoted to his mother.

And some of these -- these felonies are pretty remote

in time. They were in 2003 to 2004.

So we're asking that, as a condition of bond, if the Court sees fit, to either put up a cash amount as surety or use GPS or electronic monitoring for house arrest. That's what we're asking for. But he is not a flight risk, Your Honor, and intends to always come to court as he has in the past.

THE COURT: Thank you. The Court will take the matter under advisement, Ms. Guadarrama, to allow you an opportunity to provide briefing on the issue of the presumption. If by noon tomorrow you will provide any briefing with applicable authority supporting your assertion that this is not a presumption case or otherwise file a notice to the Court that you do, in fact, concur that this is a presumption case.

Anything further, Mr. Gonzalez?

MR. GONZALEZ: No, Your Honor. Thank you.

THE COURT: Anything further, Ms. Guadarrama?

MS. GUADARRAMA: No, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Then, Mr. Olivarez, at this time, I'm not making a decision. Your counsel is going to advise me as to applicable authority supporting the presumption or not presumption in this case. So until I receive that, I am not going to make a decision. So today, you're going to go with the Marshal service, and she'll inform you once I have made a determination. Thank you, sir.

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(End of proceedings.)
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CERTIFICATE

I, court-approved transcriber, hereby certify on this date, November 18, 2020, that the foregoing is a correct transcript from the official electronic sound recording of proceedings in the above-entitled matter.

/s/ Shawna Gauntt-Hicks SHAWNA GAUNTT-HICKS, CSR, CCR STATE OF TEXAS NO. 9353 EXPIRATION DATE: 12/31/2021